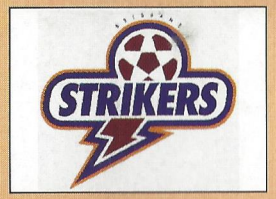

1	Tommy MARAS
2	Vladimir BERETOVAC
4	Gavin WILKINSON
5	Vinko BULJUBASIC
6	Gareth NAVEN
7	Scott MILLER
8	Paul McVITTIE
9	Paul STRUDWICK
10	Bobby DESPOTOVSKI
11	Ernie TAPAI
13	James AFKOS
14	Michael GARCIA
15	Peter VUKMIROVIC
16	Samson SIASIA
17	Scott HALPIN
18	Danny HAY
19	Anthony CARBONE
20	Tony FRANKEN
21	Peter ANOSIKE
22	Simon HARLAND
23	Troy HALPIN
Coach	Gary MAROCCHI

Today's Match Officials
Referee: S. MICALLEF
Assistant Referees:
S. MULDOON
L. PROSPERO
4th Official: D. TRIPP

1	Clint BOLTON
2	Glenn GWYNNE
3	Matthew BELL
4	Chris ZORICICH
5	Craig WILLIAMS
6	Nick MEREDITH
7	Frank FARINA
8	Sean CRANNEY
9	Rod BROWN
10	Kasey WEHRMAN
11	Troy CRANNEY
12	Mark BATTISTIN
13	Reece TOLLENAERE
14	Wayne KNIPE
15	Andrew BRAYSHAW
16	Chay HEWS
17	Jeromy HARRIS
18	Stephen LAYBUTT
19	Brad DITTON
20	Graham ROSS
21	Andrew PACKER
22	Andy HARPER
23	Gary BLACKFORD
Coach	Frank FARINA

Next Home Match Perth Glory vs Newcastle Breakers, Sunday 22nd February Kick-off 5.00pm
RED TICKETS HOTLINE 9484 1222

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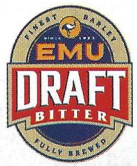
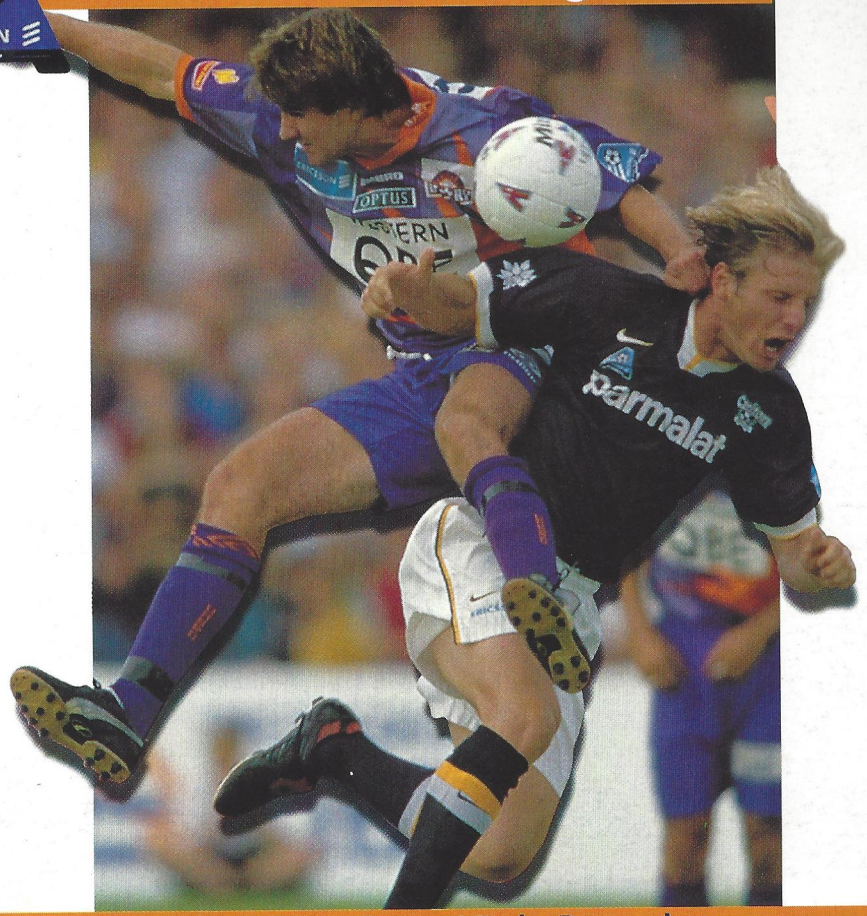


Souvenir Match Programme



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Message from Nick Tana
Chairman of Perth Glory

WHEN sporting teams "lose their way" for any length of time they always look for that magical moment which becomes the turning point.

Perth Glory's turning point has been the effort that the players and coaching staff have put into the last three games. If nothing else it has shown the true character of our future champions.

There is to be no singling out for special praise, because, like the fans, the squad has shown they can deliver and they are worthy of the support from the best fans in the land.

Today we play host to Brisbane and it would be fair to say that our boys have been a touch shy in front of goals of late. Unlike last season we lack explosiveness. The boys up front need encouragement, so today when they go forward let's all 17,000 of us scream ATTACK! ATTACK! ATTACK!

During the week an announcement was made by Soccer Australia that Northern Spirit Soccer Club would enter the competition next season. Regrettably I am unable to offer our fans any additional information as the decision was made with *no* consultation with the clubs. Again Soccer Australia has gone about our National Soccer League

business in an irresponsible manner.

Whilst we have had no direct communication with Northern Spirit, we wish them well, and hope they will side with us, to bring about change to the structure of the National League. Only with a restructured league, addressing the marketing needs of the Australian public, will soccer break from its pathetic performance record in the eastern states.

Let there be more Perth Glory type clubs in the league so this game can take its rightful place in Australia as the greatest game on earth.

Go for Glory!

Nick Tana, Chairman

COVER PHOTO

Tony Carbone and Vince Grella rise high to contest the ball.

Produced by: Bob Gordon
Australian Sports Publications
Suite 1, 330 Fitzgerald Street,
North Perth, WA 6006
PO Box 58,
North Perth, WA 6006
Ph: (08) 9227 5007
Fax: (08) 9227 7049

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On behalf of:
Perth Glory
Perry Lakes Stadium
Meagher Drive,
Floreat, WA 6014
PO Box 388,
Jolimont, WA 6014
Ph: (08) 9383 9911
Fax: (08) 9383 9737

•

Contributors:
Richard Kreider, Russell Whitson, Glen Wood, George Pendreigh, Andrew Howe, Kevin McIlduff

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Photographers:
Richard Kreider, Frank Maietta, Alf Sorbello, John Mason, Tony Feder, Melinda McIntire

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Production: Tyson Gordon
Typesetting and Design: Sunset Graphics
Pre-Press: Q Multimedium
Printing: Advance Press

GLORY FAMILY DAY

COME and join in all the fun and games at the club's first Glory Family Day. There will be a band, bouncy castles, and a free sausage sizzle for members. You'll also have the opportunity to have the speed of your kick measured against the Glory players and kick a goal or two on the Glory penalty shootout.

All supporters club members will receive a free sausage in a bun, drink of Coca-Cola or Harvey Fresh, and a Peters ice cream. For details on becoming a member contact the Glory office on 9383 9911.

A big thanks must go to Rocko Iannolo from R & C Iannolo Butchers on Albany Highway, Bentley for supplying the sausages.

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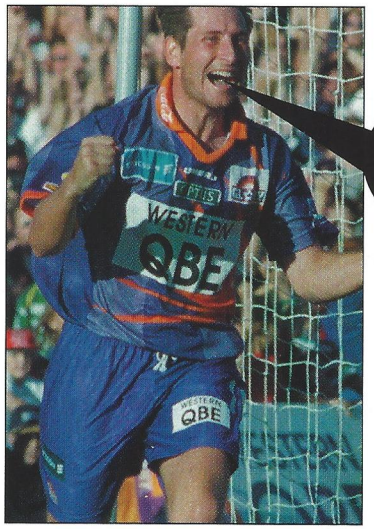

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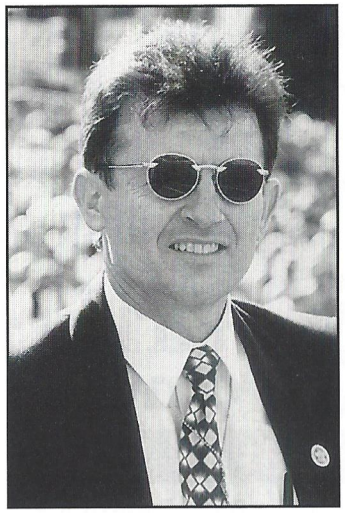
COACH

PERTH GLORY



TODAY we welcome the National League Champions to Perth. Frank Farina's Strikers have had a frustrating season up to date following last season's championship success. Injuries to key players and the retirement of a couple of players has made it difficult to play a settled lineup.

The Strikers will have fond memories of their trip to Perth last year when they beat the Glory 2-0. National League record goalscorer Rod Brown will be hoping to increase his tally, may we congratulate Rod in attaining the record.

The Glory have responded in the last three weeks with excellent results against top six sides. Defensively we have tightened up with three consecutive clean sheets. The signing of Troy Halpin and the return from injury of Michael Garcia has given Glory the necessary depth to challenge for honours this season.

Our performance last week against Adelaide City was excellent, and considering Ernie Tapai and Paul Strudwick were missing through injury and Anthony Carbone was out suspended, we are well placed to maintain our push for a top six berth. Our away record has been very pleasing and we would like to reproduce that form in front of our home crowd, who are the best supporters in the country.

The flight for the top six is wide open and now is the time to show some consistency. All teams except Canberra and Newcastle can still make the play-offs.

Hopefully a win today will consolidate Glory in fourth place, and give us the confidence to challenge the big guns for a top three finish.

G. Marocchi

Gary Marocchi – Coach

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ROUND 16 ROUND-UP

PERTH Glory rebounded back into the winners' circle last Sunday night with a classy 1-0 victory over title hopefuls Adelaide City at Hindmarsh Stadium.

The 86th minute winner from Bobby Despotovski, in front of a 4607 attendance, broke a goal drought that had extended nearly 400 minutes – or just the one goal from their previous five outings.

It was a well deserved win, one that lifted the Perth team two notches into fifth place and back on track for a place in the play-offs. The Glory cannot afford to make too many mistakes in their last 10 games however, since there are just five points currently separating nine of the 14 clubs.

Scoring ace Damian Mori was restricted to just a handful of goal-strikes thanks to a superb marking job done by Gavin Wilkinson. The strongest opportunity for Mori came moments after Despotovski scored, when he managed to direct a solid shot on goal despite the close attention of three defenders, but Tony Franken was fully alert to the danger.

Gareth Naven once again played a superb captain's role for the Glory, which included carving out the scoring chance for Despotovski.

Sydney United are three points clear of second placed South Melbourne after a 1-1 draw with Carlton last Sunday at Parramatta Stadium. Lubo Lapsansky headed Carlton into the lead after 38 minutes, before classy defender Velimir Kupresak equalised with a header of his own three minutes into the second half.

At the Knights Stadium, South Melbourne missed the chance to close in on Sydney United when they too battled out a 1-1 draw, with rivals Melbourne Knights in an emotion charged encounter that had the Knights down to nine men, lose their goalkeeper Joe Didulica after 54 minutes with concussion, and had their coach Ken Worden ejected from the dug-out by referee Eddie Lennie.

Ivan Kelic broke the deadlock in the 63rd minute for the Knights, before Paul Trimboli equalised with an 89th minute penalty past stand-in keeper Andrew Marth who had played superbly between the sticks. Ransford Banini and Zeljko Susa were the two Knights players who received their marching orders.

Gippsland Falcons are slowly emerging as serious play-off contenders following a 5-1 thrashing of the Newcastle Breakers at the Topper Stadium on January 16. Red cards were

Bobby Despotovski broke the goalscoring drought last Sunday.

shown to Breakers' Matthew Lowe and Nick Palamaras of the Falcons. Two solo goals to Gippsland live-wire Joe Tricarico was the main highlight in this game, together with singles coming from Mark Foy, Nick Tsaltas and substitute Brian MacNicoll.

The Breakers' consolation goal was a Shane Pryce penalty after 68 minutes.

Marconi Fairfield are closing in on the top six following a 2-0 victory over the Canberra Cosmos. A typical long-range strike by Brad Maloney put the Stallions ahead in the 32nd minute, Dominic Longo then increased the Sky Blues' advantage four minutes later from right on the Cosmos goal-line.

Brisbane Strikers secured a much needed win at the expense of the Wollongong Wolves who were beaten 2-1 at the Suncorp Stadium.

Troy Cranney drilled home the opening goal after just two minutes, then the Wolves drew level in the 24th minute through Matthew Horsley. The Strikers were presented with a gift winner in the 77th minute when Rob Stanton directed an attempted clearance into his own net.

A crowd of just 2498 was on hand at the Belmore Sports Ground to watch UTS Olympic secure their sixth win of the season, a 3-0 triumph over the Adelaide Sharks.

Norm Tome got Olympic away to a good start with an 8th minute penalty conversion, but had to wait until the 70th minute before increasing their lead when substitute Chris Kalantzis threaded home a freekick from the front of the box. The infringement was conceded by Sharks goalkeeper Nathan Wildy who handballed outside of the area and was duly sent off by referee Eugene Brazzale.

Richard Kreider

We're behind Australian soccer, all the way.

ERICSSON

Perth Glory are back in business

FORGET the fact that last Sunday Glory won its first game for six weeks, and forget the fact that Glory scored its first goal after 398 minutes – look to the positives.

Glory have not conceded a goal in 231 minutes, which was achieved in astute company. Three of the top four teams, Sydney United, Carlton and Adelaide City could not breach Glory's defence.

Surely that is clear evidence that Glory is pushing for a place in the play-offs.

Today, the Glory must keep up the momentum and take full advantage of Brisbane Strikers' poor season.

Eight months ago the Strikers were on top of the world after winning the Ericsson Cup grand final, but since then, the Queenslanders have alarmingly struggled to make an impact this season.

Last week the Strikers recorded their fifth victory, a 2-1 result over the rampant Wollongong Wolves, so a little bit of confidence will no doubt be rippling through Frank Farina's team today.

The Strikers are in 12th place, and only the most fanatical one-eyed Brisbane supporter would be brave enough to tip that Brisbane will defend its title in a few months' time.

The most pleasing part of Glory's recent form is that the defence is sounder than in the past and the presence of goalkeeper Anthony Franken is a major contributing factor.

From five full games, Franken has kept his goal intact four times.

Glory coach, Gary Marocchi, will probably be in a quandary in selecting his starting line-up, particularly as Ernie Tapai has shrugged off a nagging thigh injury. Tapai has been absent from the Glory team for eight weeks.

Glory captain Gareth Naven will be hoping to continue his good form against Brisbane today.

Anthony Carbone is also available for selection after serving a one match suspension.

It may be a happy dilemma for Marocchi with the extra options at his disposal.

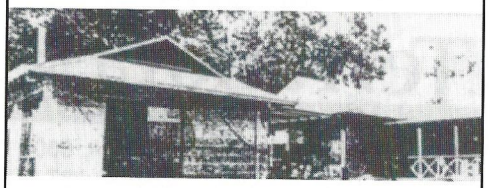
Midfielder Gareth Naven is in sparkling form lately, and the strikeforce of Bobby Despotovski and Samson Siasia, although not regularly finding the net, are both giving opposition defences plenty of headaches.

Despotovski's goal last week was his first in six games, while Siasia has gone scoreless for 10 weeks.

If the Strikers are at full strength, then the Perth fans will see the record-breaking national league goalscorer, Rod Brown, in action.

Brown broke John Kosmina's long-standing record of 133 goals late last month.

The Strikers will be hoping that the likes of Mark Battistin, Andrew Harper, Andy Brayshaw and the Cranney brothers, Sean and Troy, will steer the champion team to another victory at Perth Oval. Last season the Strikers won 2-0.



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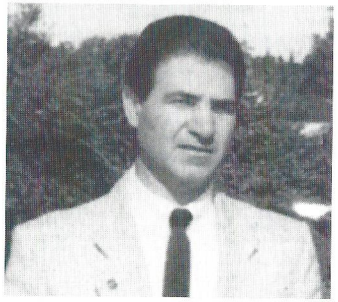

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The Road to Glory

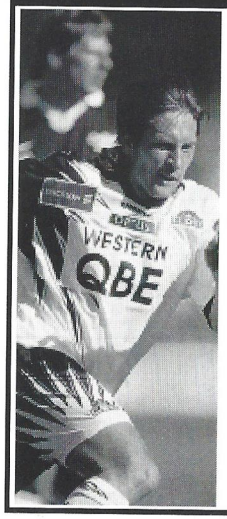
					Tommy MARAS (1)	Vladimir BERETOVAC (2)	Craig NAVEN (3)	Gavin WILKINSON (4)	Vinko BULJUBASIC (5)	Gareth NAVEN (6)	Scott MILLER (7)	Paul McVITTIE (8)	Paul STRUDWICK (9)	Bobby DESPOTOVSKI (10)	Ernie TAPAI (11)	Doug ITHIER (12)	James AFKOS (13)	Michael GARCIA (14)	Peter VUKMIROVIC (15)	Samson SIASIA (16)	Scott HALPIN (17)	Danny HAY (18)	Anthony CARBONE (19)	Tony FRANKEN (20)	Peter ANOSIKE (21)	Simon HARLAND (22)	Troy HALPIN (23)
Oct 4	Carlton	3.00pm	1-2	5,897	P		P(1)	P	P	P	P	S	P	P	P				S		P	P					
Oct 12	**Adelaide City**	**4.00pm**	1-4	17,673	P		S	P	P	P	P	S	P	P	P					P(1)		P	P				
Oct 18	Brisbane Strikers	7.00pm	1-0	4,502	P		P	P	P	P	P		P	P(1)	P				S	P		P					
Oct 26	**Melbourne Knights**	**4.00pm**	3-2	14,384	P		P		P	P	P		P	P(1)	P	S			P	P(1)	S(1)	P					
Oct 31	Newcastle Breakers	7.30pm	3-2	4,183	P			S	P	P	P(1)	P	P(1)	P(1)	P				P	P	S	P					
Nov 9	**UTS Olympic**	**4.00pm**	1-0	16,905				P	P	P	P	S	P	P	P				S	P(1)	S	P	P	P			
Nov 15	Marconi Fairfield	7.00pm	1-0	5,628	P			P	P	P	P	S	P	P	P					P		P	P(1)				
Nov 23	**Adelaide Sharks**	**4.00pm**	2-2	17,030	P			P	P	P	P	S	P	P					S	P	S	P	P		P(1)		
Nov 30	Gippsland Falcons	6.00pm	1-2	2,008	P			P	P	P	P	S	P		P					P	P(1)	P	P		S		
Dec 7	**South Melbourne**	**5.00pm**	4-1	15,379	P				P	P	P(1)	S	P	P(1)		S			P	P	P(1)	P(1)	P		S		
Dec 14	**Wollongong**	**5.00pm**	0-3	15,080	P			P	P	P	P	P		P		S			S	P	P	P	P		S		
Dec 21	**Canberra Cosmos**	**5.00pm**	1-1	12,174	P	P		P		P(1)		P					P		P	P	P	P		S	P	S	
Dec 28	**Sydney United**	**5.00pm**	0-2	17,764		S		P	P	P	P	P		P			P			P	P	P	S	P			
Jan 2	Sydney United	4.30pm*	0-0	5,532				P	P	P	P			P			S	P		P	P	P	P	P			
Jan 11	**Carlton**	**5.00pm**	0-0	14,687				P	P	P	P			P				S		P	P	P	P	P			P
Jan 18	Adelaide City	5.00pm*	1-0	4,607				P	P	P	P			P(1)				P		P	P	P		P			P
Jan 25	**Brisbane Strikers**	**5.00pm**																									
Feb 1	Melbourne Knights	3.00pm*																									
Feb 22	**Newcastle Breakers**	**5.00pm**																									
Mar 1	UTS Olympic	3.30pm*																									
Mar 8	**Gippsland Falcons**	**4.00pm**																									
Mar 15	Adelaide Sharks	5.00pm*																									
Mar 22	**Marconi Fairfield**	**4.00pm**																									
Mar 29	South Melbourne	4.00pm*																									
April 4	Wollongong	5.00pm*																									
April 12	Canberra Cosmos	5.00pm*																									

* Note Perth Time P = Played S = Substitute (1) = Goals Home games in **Bold**

Appearances and Goals

No.	Name	1996/97 App	1996/97 Sub	1996/97 Gls	1997/98 App	1997/98 Sub	1997/98 Gls	Totals App	Totals Gls
1	Tom MARAS	8	1	-	11	-	-	20	-
2	Vladimir BERETOVAC	6	8	-	1	1	-	16	-
3	Craig NAVEN	25	-	-	3	1	1	29	1
4	Gavin WILKINSON	21	3	3	13	1	-	38	3
5	Vinko BULJUBASIC	25	-	-	15	-	-	40	-
6	Gareth NAVEN	25	-	1	16	-	1	41	2
7	Scott MILLER	26	-	2	15	-	2	41	4
8	Paul McVITTIE	25	-	2	4	7	-	36	2
9	Paul STRUDWICK	21	2	7	10	-	1	33	8
10	Bobby DESPOTOVSKI	23	-	14	14	-	5	37	19
11	Ernie TAPAI	-	-	-	8	-	-	8	-
12	Doug ITHIER	9	3	-	-	3	-	15	-
13	James AFKOS	-	-	-	2	1	-	3	-
14	Michael GARCIA	-	-	-	2	1	-	3	-
15	Peter VUKMIROVIC	1	6	-	4	5	-	16	-
16	Samson SIASIA	-	-	-	15	-	3	15	3
17	Scott HALPIN	-	-	-	9	4	2	13	2
18	Danny HAY	-	-	-	16	-	1	16	1
19	Anthony CARBONE	8	-	1	9	1	1	18	2
20	Tony FRANKEN	-	-	-	5	1	-	6	-
21	Peter ANOSIKE	-	-	-	2	3	1	5	1
22	Simon HARLAND	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
23	Troy HALPIN	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-

'Ere we go, 'ere we go, 'ere we go!



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	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney United	16	9	6	1	26	12	33
South Melbourne	16	8	6	2	38	23	30
Adelaide City	14	8	1	5	27	16	25
Carlton SC	16	6	7	3	19	15	25
Perth Glory	**16**	**7**	**4**	**5**	**20**	**21**	**25**
Melbourne Knights	15	6	5	4	21	17	23
Wollongong	15	7	1	7	32	17	22
Marconi-Fairfield	16	6	4	6	17	21	22
West Adelaide	16	6	3	7	23	26	21
UTS Olympic	16	6	3	7	19	27	21
Gippsland	16	5	5	6	15	18	20
Brisbane Strikers	16	5	0	11	13	23	15
Canberra Cosmos	16	2	6	8	19	34	12
Newcastle	16	1	5	10	15	35	8

Ericsson Cup Leading Goalscorers

13 Pablo Cardozo (Adelaide Sharks)
11 Damien Mori (Adelaide City)
10 Scott Chipperfield (Wollongong Wolves)
8 Abbas Saad (Sydney United)
8 Norm Tome (UTS Olympic)
6 Clayton Zane (Newcastle)
5 David Mitchell (Sydney United)
5 Tom Pondeljak (Melbourne Knights)
5 Anthony Surjan (Wollongong)
5 Bobby Despotovski (Perth Glory)
5 Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)
3 Samson Siasia (Perth Glory)

Round 17 Ericsson Cup Games

Saturday, January 24	Carlton	_____ v	Canberra Cosmos	_____
Sunday, January 25	Gippsland Falcons	_____ v	UTS Olympic	_____
	South Melbourne	_____ v	Newcastle Breakers	_____
	Wollongong City	_____ v	Melbourne Knights	_____
	Sydney United	_____ v	Adelaide City	_____
	Adelaide Sharks	_____ v	Marconi Fairfield	_____

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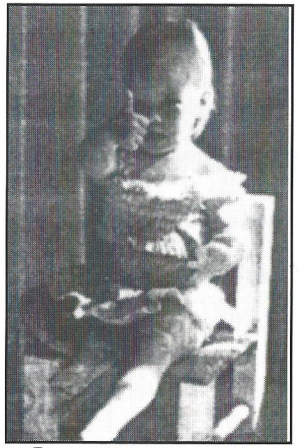

Excellent Service

Off The Field

The Perth Glory ball boys/girls for the Harvey Fresh sponsored game against Carlton.

The Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Minister Mike Board presenting Perth Glory's Deputy Chairman Paul Afkos with a framed copy of the government's Living in Harmony charter.

Perth Glory Soccer Club

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Phone (08) 9383 9911
Fax (08) 9383 9737

•

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Chairman

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Paul Afkos
Deputy Chairman

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Roger Lefort
General Manager

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Director

•

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Marketing Consultant

•

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LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday
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The Glory Family Day,
Perth Oval

•

Friday
22nd May 1998
MGP Ball,
Burswood Showroom

Inaugural

Perth Glory

Banquet

Auction

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Perth Glory wears support on their sleeves

IT WILL be a win for diversity this Australia Day long-weekend with Perth Glory wearing its support for *Living in Harmony* on their sleeves – literally.

The Glory have incorporated the *Harmony* logo into its strip for the 1998 season.

No fewer than nine countries are represented within the Glory team and are all avid fans of unity through diversity.

It is this diversity, coupled with the Glory's championing of community spirit, that Minister for Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs, Mike Board, believes makes the team the perfect ambassadors for *Harmony* in Western Australia.

"Like the Glory, WA is an exciting mix of different people and cultures," said Mr Board.

"Glory *works* because its game strategy is to maximise each individual's abilities for the good of the team.

"So too *Living in Harmony*.

"Developed by the Office of Multicultural Interests in consultation with the community, *Living in Harmony* is a strategy that vigorously promotes harmony among West Australians by recognising the value of our rich cultural heritage as a key to future success.

"It sees difference as an asset, unity as strength.

"Aimed at schools, businesses, sporting teams and the community, the strategy suggests ways of increasing understanding and acceptance of our diverse population, with all its cultural similarities and dissimilarities.

"Essentially, it reminds us that *Fair Go* is the Australian way, on and off the field."

While the Australia Day weekend match will be an on-field display of this vital Australian ethic, the day itself and the sleeve logo are only one of the ways these sporting celebrities are demonstrating their support.

"Literally thousands of fans and all the players will be invited to sign a giant orange ribbon the symbol for harmony, and be paraded on the field before the match," said Mr Board.

The players, Deputy Chairman Paul Afkos, and General Manager Roger Lefort endorsing the 'Living in Harmony' message with the Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Minister, Mr Mike Board.

"It is the second in a series of huge ribbons that the Office of Multicultural Interests plan to join together with signatures from all around the State to offer on WA's behalf to the Olympic Torch Parade for the Sydney 2000 Games.

"Equally cheery will be the sea of Australian flags, displaying the symbolic union of *Harmony* and *Glory* that fans will wave in honour of cultural diversity throughout the game."

As a guest of club owner, Paul Afkos, the Minister will present a brief talk to VIPs in attendance at the pre-game VIP lunch, stressing the important role of sports personalities in promoting harmony issues.

The *Living in Harmony* logo is now also a permanent fixture in the match program.

Links to the Minister's website have been added to the Glory homepage, making it easy for patrons to get more information on *Living in Harmony* initiatives.

Perth Glory will continue to promote *Living in Harmony* during 1998 and is encouraging all its patrons to be good sports and do the same.

It's hotting up to be a harmonious year!

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AFTER the T's were crossed and the I's dotted to get the Perth Glory club under way, the very first group of players that gathered under coach Gary Marocchi had their maiden match on the morning of Sunday January 14, 1996, against newly promoted Premier League club Olympic Kingsway at Kingsway Reserve.

Such was the team's infancy, there was only 11 players for Marocchi to choose from: Sorrento goalkeeper Mike Harkness, defenders James Afkos (Floreat), Alan Armstrong (Stirling), Carlos Rodriguez (Fremantle City) and Scott Clissold (Stirling), midfielders Gary Lee (Sorrento), Gareth Naven (Perth) and Steve Bourne (Stirling), with Robin Dyers (Kaiser Chiefs – South Africa), Peter Murphy (Swan IC) and Joe Vaz (Fremantle City) in the forward line. Close to 500 people wrapped themselves around the pitch to see the Glory defeat Kingsway 6-2.

The first goal was scored by Armstrong after just three minutes, Steve Bourne added another four minutes later, then Armstrong headed his second from another set piece in the 20th minute. The other Glory goals came from Dyers in the 32nd minute, Murphy (34th) and Naven two minutes after the break.

Olympic, coached by WA Director of Coaching John Ward, managed to score two late goals, a 75th minute penalty from Ivica Markovic, and a quality long range strike by Andy Mason four minutes from the end.

As time has shown, Gareth Naven was the only player to have made the first national league game from the original line-up, while Afkos made his debut earlier this season. Promising players such as Armstrong and Bourne were unable to sign with the club because of business commitments.

A flying tackle by Kingsway's Frank Paolino is too late as Steve Bourne unleashes a shot on goal.

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NSL SCENE

Six sets of brothers are currently playing in the NSL, some with the same clubs while others play in opposition clubs. Playing for the same clubs are Scott and Troy Halpin (Perth Glory), Troy and Sean Cranney (Newcastle), Sean and Mark Babic (Marconi), Joe and John Didulica (Melbourne Knights), Dean and Jason Culina (Sydney United) while brothers in opposition are John (South Melbourne) and Dean (Carlton) Anastasiadis. Perth Glory had brothers Craig and Gareth Naven but Craig was forced into retirement due to business reasons.

* * *

Canberra's huge 8-1 win over UTS Olympic in Round 14 set up quite a few records for the Canberra club. It was the club's highest score, its biggest winning margin and it was the biggest win of any Canberra side over a Sydney side and it was also the highest aggregate of goals (nine) in a match this season.

* * *

Sydney United under player/coach David Mitchell have spent the last 11 weeks on top of the table and look favourites to take out the minor premiership.

* * *

Perth Glory had played 398 minutes of soccer without scoring a goal, until Bobby Despotovski put one through at the 86th minute against Adelaide City last Sunday. The previous goal for Glory came from captain Gareth Naven at the 49 minute mark against Canberra on December 21. Perth's tally almost matched Gippsland Falcons who went for 399 minutes without scoring which included rounds three, four, five and six. UTS Olympic also amassed 338 minutes of non-scoring activity during the mid season.

* * *

Peter Desira reports in the Melbourne Herald-Sun that Soccer Australia has reached a decision to include Sydney side Northern Spirit in the NSL for season 1998/99. The club will be privately run and they have appointed former Socceroo International Graham Arnold as player/coach. As yet there hasn't been any information on the Sydney Seahawks' bid. Soccer Australia chief executive David Woolley will go to New Zealand to discuss the Auckland Kings bid to join the Ericsson Cup next season.

* * *

Jason Culina had the last laugh over his father Branko Culina when Sydney United defeated Canberra Cosmos in Round 15. Jason scored the last goal for the Sydneysiders in their 4-1 victory over his father's Canberra team.

* * *

This week we welcome last year's premiers Brisbane Strikers who are having somewhat of a bad season, although winning last week. The Strikers will feature Rod Brown, the red-haired goalscorer who holds the NSL record of 136 goals.

* * *

Gippsland Falcons were originally named after a car, and not a bird. The chief sponsor in the club's early days was a company called Maryvale Motors who sold Ford Falcons. The club were originally known as the Morwell Ford Falcons and played in the Latrobe Valley Soccer League. They dropped the Ford out of their name in the early 1980s but stuck with the Falcon, turning the car into a bird when they joined the NSL.

* * *

South Melbourne are looking for a new name and logo after the name of Lakers was stripped off them by the American Basketball team Lakers who hold the franchise on the name. South Melbourne were forced to move when their Albert Lake ground was bulldozed to make way for the Grand Prix circuit around Albert Park Lake. The Victorian Government rebuilt the Bob Jane Stadium for South Melbourne who then adopted the name of South Melbourne Lakers. The club are now looking for a new logo for next season but don't be surprised if the name Hellas reappears as South Melbourne were originally known as South Melbourne-Hellas.

* * *

South Melbourne are the only club this season to score in every match, the club have amassed 38 goals at an average of 2.37 which exceeds Perth's 20 goals at 1.25, the Glory failing to find the back of the net in four matches.

* * *

Newcastle created a new record in the NSL after going down to Gippsland Falcons last weekend, the Breakers have now gone 15 matches without a win, their only win was the opening match of the season against Adelaide Sharks 4-1. The old record was held by Canterbury in the 1986 season.

Laurie Williams

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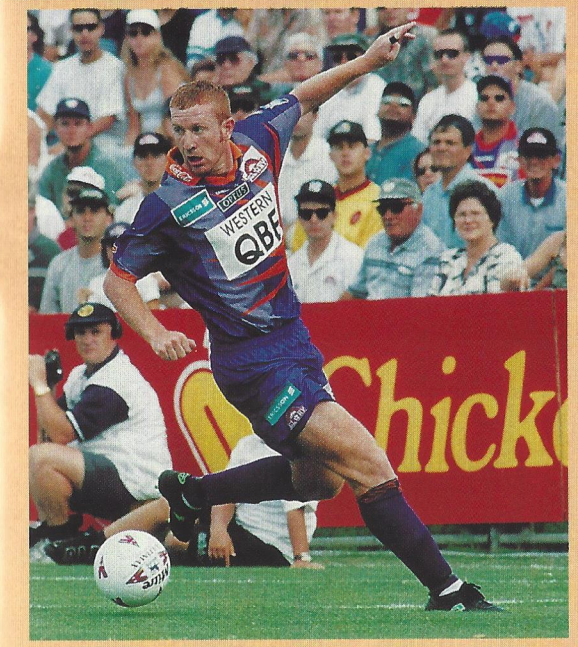
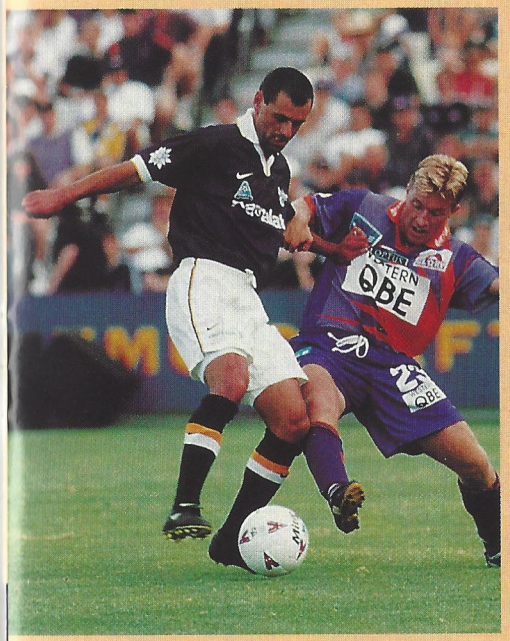
GLORY ACTION



Kiwi internationals Gavin Wilkinson and Danny Hay (18) have been in great form recently.



Troy Halpin tackles Carlton's Robert Trajkovski a fortnight ago.

Samson Siasia races away from Robert Trajkovski in Glory's last home game.

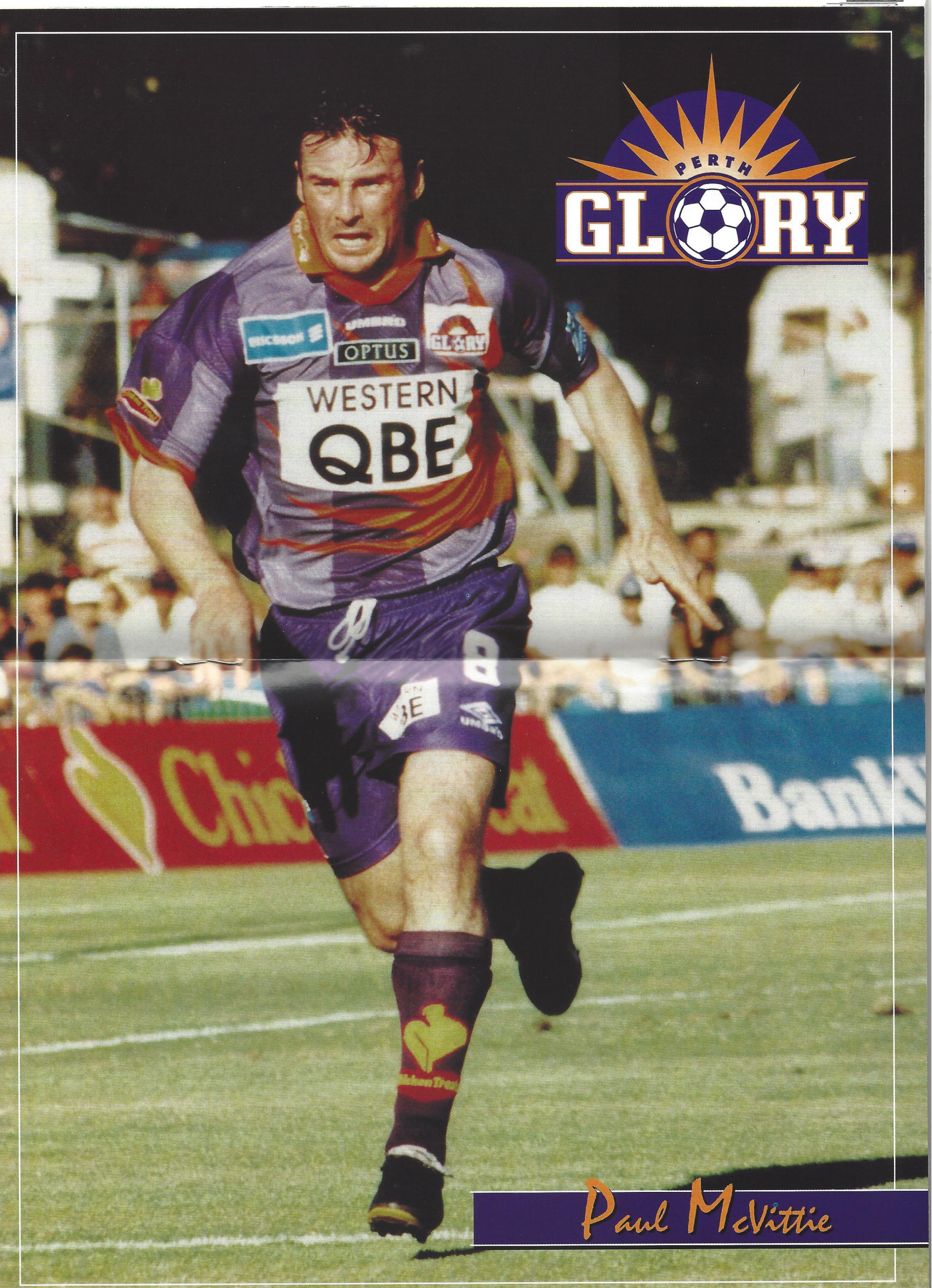
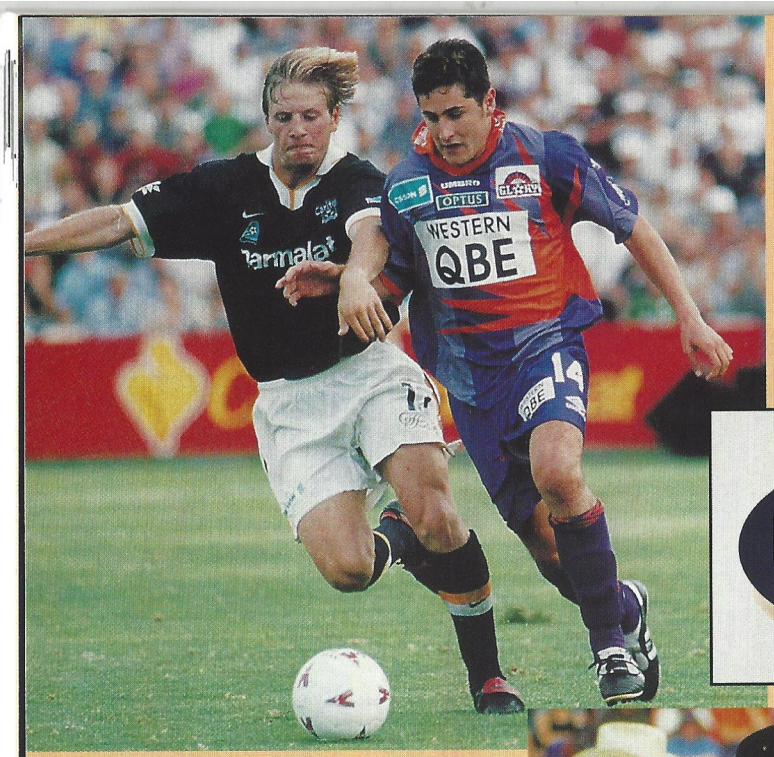
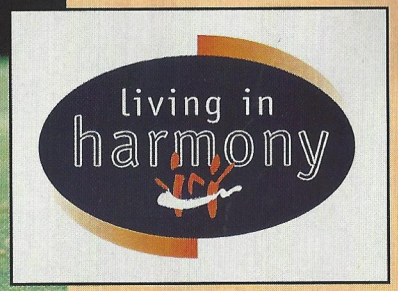


Photo courtesy Mel Mac's Photographics Ph 0419 048 758

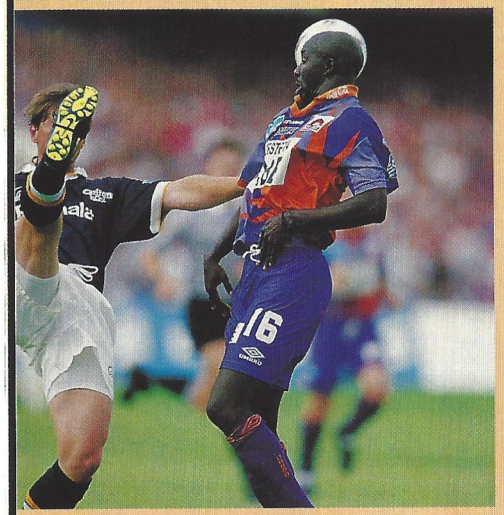


Michael Garcia and Vince Grella tussle for position.



Troy Halpin (left) with brother Scott after the draw against Carlton.

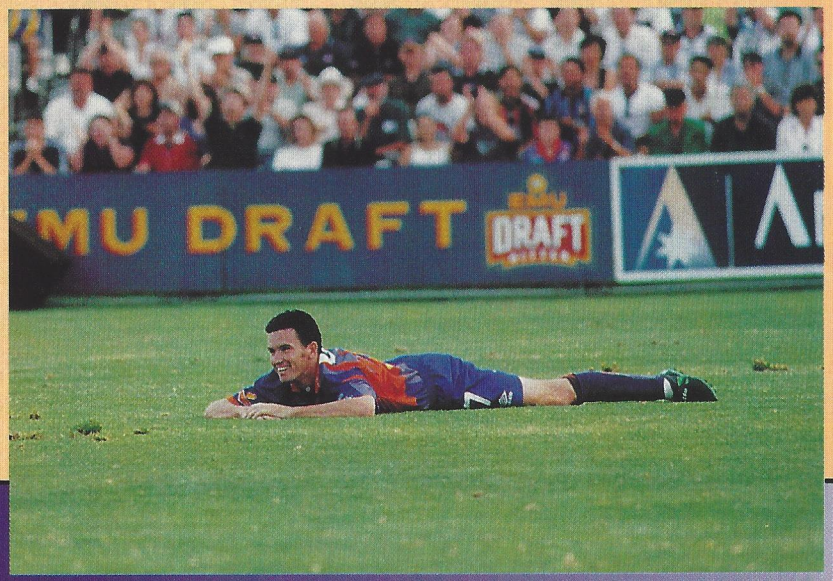
The dancers kick up their heels during the half-time entertainment.



ABOVE: Samson Siasia in action against Carlton two weeks ago.

RIGHT: Camera shy bootscooters strut their stuff in style.

Scott Miller sees something funny from ground level.



SNAPSHOTS

INTERNATIONAL GLORY

MIDFIELD masters Ernie Tapai and Troy Halpin have both been chosen for Terry Venables' 20-man Socceroo squad for next months Optus World Series tournament, while striker Bobby Despotovski has been placed on the stand-by list. Midfielder Michael Garcia, who has made an impressive return after a lengthy absence, will be flying out tomorrow to a Sydney 2000 training camp with the Australian under-23 coach Raul Blanco at the Cumberland Institute of Sport in New South Wales.

Apart from Matthew Bingley, who plays for the Vissel Kobe club in Japan, the other nineteen Socceroos are from the Ericsson Cup national league. The selection of Tapai may be seen as somewhat of a surprise since the midfielder has been out of action for the past month with a niggling thigh injury, but Halpin's call-up is due reward for outstanding performances with Newcastle Breakers, and not discounting the two games for the Glory. "Soccer Australia is determined to keep soccer in the forefront of Australian sporting culture – the Optus World Series is a perfect vehicle to maintain soccer's ever-increasing profile," said SA Chairman David Hill who announced last Thursday that he would remain with Soccer Australia until the year 2000, despite his intention to stand for pre-selection as an Australian Labor Party candidate for the Sydney Federal seat of Hughes. So far, there has been no mention of Venables relinquishing his coaching role immediately after the tournament, even though there is very little activity for the national squad in the near future.

Meanwhile, not to be outdone, Danny Hay and Gavin Wilkinson will be jetting out to Auckland New Zealand, to represent their country in a friendly against Chile on February 4, and Samson Siasia has been recalled by the Nigerian soccer team which is heading for Hong Kong where the World Cup qualifiers will play a friendly match against Iran on January 28. Iran, of course, are also bound for France 98 after having eliminated Australia late last year.

Richard Kreider

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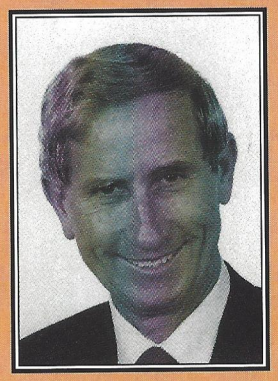
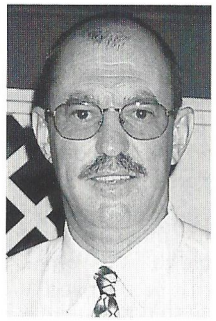


TONY FINI

Managing Director – Fini Properties

BEHIND THE SCENES



KIM Taylor is the Glory media co-ordinator on match days. His job is to look after the needs of the media as they assemble in the Press Box. Kim supplies members of the print and electronic media with complimentary matchday programmes, official teamsheets, as well as looking after the refreshment side of things should the well pampered press require tea, coffee, soft drinks, or whatever.

Should anyone wish to conduct a post match interview with any of the players or coaching staff, Kim acts as the go between and arranges such interviews. Being an accomplished parachutist and sky-diver, Kim can often be seen dropping into the centre circle at Perth Oval from a dizzy height. During the festive season it is not uncommon to see our amicable media-man donning a crimson red uniform complete with a bushy white beard.

John Mason

QUIT FOR GLORY COMPETITION

The number plate of the vehicle with the 'Quit for Glory' bumper sticker spotted at the last home game was 9CD 475. The lucky driver has won 10 tickets to the next Glory home game and a soccer ball autographed by the team.

If this is you please call in to the match day office today and collect your prize.

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Have your match day programme handy.

6PR AM 882 Talking Perth

SHORT TALK

By RICHARD KREIDER

300,000th FAN HERE TODAY

Last season an amazing 154,318 soccer fans flooded through the Perth Oval turnstiles, and up until the last home game against Carlton, 141,076 have seen the latest nine home games, which equates to a current total of 295,394. So, one of you today can be proud to know that you are the 300,000th person to see a Perth Glory match at home. I'm sure I speak on behalf of the Glory office when I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the multitude of soccer lovers who have proved once and for all, that the world football can prosper in this sports loving state if it is commercially focussed, in order to appeal to the mainstream Australian, regardless of origin.

LOCAL NIGHT-SERIES KICKS-OFF

Defending champions Floreat Athena have not been given any favours in their quest for back-to-back Soccer West Coast Night Series titles when the draw put them in arguably the toughest of the two preliminary groups.

Their Group B opponents will be Fremantle, Western Knights, Spearwood, Bayswater, Floreat and Olympic Kingsway who are now to be known as Kingsway Hammers.

Group A consists of Sorrento, Joondalup, Dianella, last year's finalists Inglewood Falcons, Stirling and Perth SC who take on Joondalup in next Friday's opening round fixture at 6.15pm, before Floreat play Fremantle at 8pm.

Games are on Wednesday and Friday nights, while the Minor Night-Series competition at Coker Park is to be played Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting February 3.

Group A: *Swan IC, Rockingham City, Wanneroo City, Queens Park, Perth City* and last years runners-up *Stirling Suns.*

Group B: Defending champions *Southside United, Ashfield/Bunbury, Cockburn United, Bassendean Caledonians, Balcatta and Armadale Park.*

KINGSWAY HAMMERS

The name Kingsway Hammers has come about from the creation of a school of excellence coaching scheme that will be run at Kingsway Reserve and overseen by English Premier Division club West Ham United.

The club's chief executive and director of football, Peter Storrie, and youth team coach Tony Carr were in Perth early last week to finalise the concept that will involve 100 boys in Perth from the age of 11.

Sydney club Blacktown City are also a part of the three year programme with 100 boys and are to be known as Blacktown Hammers.

It is believed West Ham will be investing $450,000 a year in sponsorship, kit and coaching staff. The director of coaching in Perth will be Gary Diable while Ken Schembri will manage the program in Blacktown.

The London club are fully aware of the potential of the juniors at the Kingsway club, since Stan Lazaridis began his career there, as did Perth Glory midfielder Michael Garcia. Michael's 16-year-old brother Richard is already at Upton Park and tipped to be an outstanding prospect. 20-year-old Chris Coyne is in his second season at West Ham and has now been joined by his 16-year-old brother Jamie who is there as a triallist.

OOPS!

In the last program yours truly said Troy Halpin was senior to his brother Scott, when in fact Scott is the eldest by two years. Just to put the record straight, Scott's birthday is 5/1/71 and Troy was born 17/8/73.

200 GAMES

Brisbane Strikers player/coach Frank Farina will make his 200th Ericsson Cup appearance today. Well done Frank.

Mitre

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FAN MAIL

Readers are encouraged to send letters or photographs for inclusion in the programme. A prize will be up for grabs for the remainder of the season if your letter or photograph is selected as the best of the week. All material should be sent to PO Box 58, North Perth 6006, and letters should be no more than 150 words.

I GO to every match with my parents, friend, her brother and my sister.

We all go and sit in the members stand, and there I sit down and look around at the crowd and ask myself one question, "Does this crowd ever die?" And the answer to my question is quite simply "No, this crowd never dies", no matter if we are losing or having a bit of a slump, the crowd this season has never been under 12,000.

When I look at "The Hill" I think this is something unique. From the start to the end of the game they are continuously chanting their famous songs. In fact all around the ground the fans are screaming and getting behind the players till the end. Even when the boys lose you always hear a big roar at the end. Now this is what I call true soccer supporters.

Lauren Bradder
(Aged 12)

SIR, Being over on this side of the country I guess I miss out on all the action but not to worry, I always look forward to seeing the replay on our TV.

Go for Glory.

D. Gardner
Hampton Park, Vic 3976

P.S. I have two stickers on my car.

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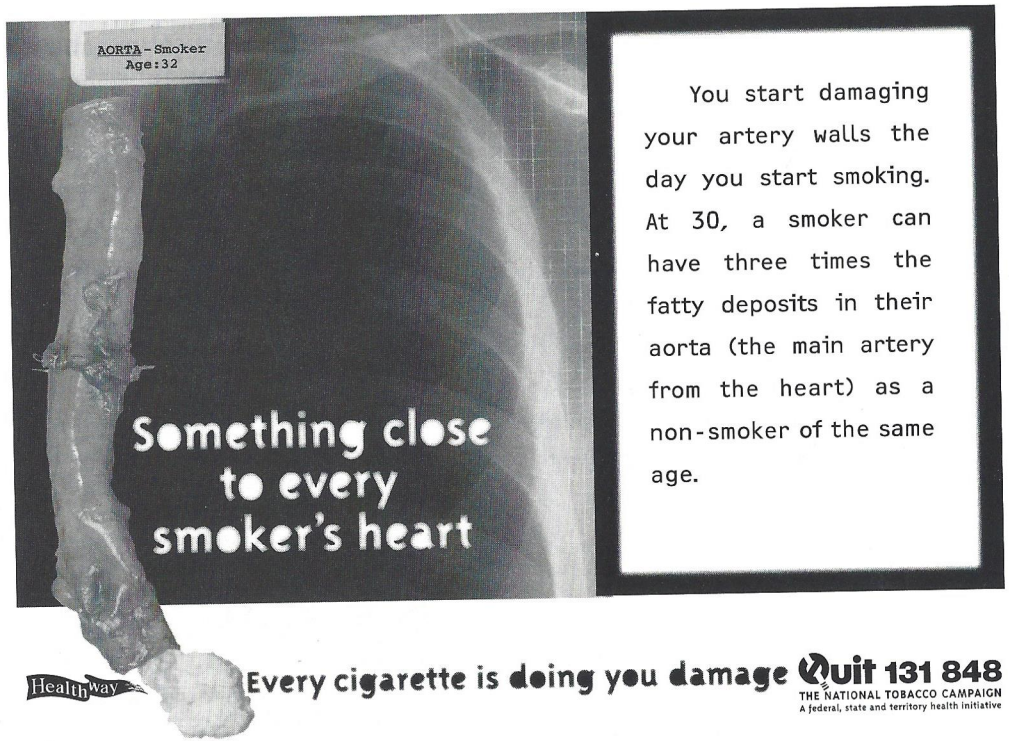

SPEAKING TO THE FANS

With GLEN WOOD

Photos by John Mason

WE all know how the fame of Glory has spread far and wide across our great continent, but how about this for devotion.

Here I find Kath Storey in her wheelchair outside her hostel in Edgewater with carers Margaret, Carol and Susan, and why is she looking so chuffed? Well, I'll tell you.

The vice-chairman's wife, Bianca Afkos, heard about Kath and her support of Glory. So she put together a parcel of Glory bits and pieces which I got the pleasurable job of presenting to Kath. And I can tell you, she was over the moon.

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Kath Storey with carers Margaret, Carol and Susan.

Although a Victorian, and a true fan of that 'other' game, she is also very keen on tennis, and is there any wonder when her brother is the legendary Frank Sedgman.

She can now be seen driving her wheelchair round the northern suburbs shopping centres wearing her Glory cap, and how about the car sticker on the chair.

Her ambition now is to come to one of our matches.

BRISBANE STRIKERS – A Brief History

By ANDREW HOWE

THE Brisbane United soccer team was formed as a completely new entity in 1991 and joined the 1991-92 A-league. Brisbane's entry came about through the determined work of the Queensland Soccer Federation (QSF). But the key to the national league door was the Bradley Report.

In 1990 the Australian Soccer Federation (ASF) commissioned Dr Graham Bradley to provide independent advice on how to effectively improve the face of soccer in Australia. Bradley's major recommendation was to further regionalise the A-league.

Before 1991, a simple promotion and relegation system existed. The bottom two A-league clubs returned to state league, while two new teams were selected from various state league champions.

But this straight-forward promotion/relegation format led to clubs putting all their efforts into on-field performance, usually at the cost of off-field components such as promotion, junior development and home ground conditions. And more often than not it was Sydney/Melbourne teams who gained promotion, which didn't do much to spread the Australian soccer gospel into other population centres.

Bradley's report provided the ASF with a tool to start to clean up the league. Strong and ambitious clubs were encouraged to join up, especially those from outside Sydney and Melbourne.

Brisbane previously had A-league presence. In fact the Brisbane Lions were one of the instigators of the league. Brisbane City also entered the inaugural 1977 national competition. The presence of two A-league teams provided Brisbane soccer fans with one game a week throughout the first 10 seasons 1977 to 1986. Crowds in the first couple of years were rather good. For example, Brisbane City averaged 5500 in 1977.

But with a gradual decline in interest, and after a drastic reorganisation in the national league in 1987, both Lions and City were dropped to the Queensland league. The Lions made a brief but unsuccessful return in 1988.

The QSF soon set about to rectify the situation of no national league presence. But now the QSF enlisted the support of the entire Brisbane soccer community, including both Lions and City. The Brisbane United team was accepted into the revamped 1991-92 national competition.

United was in effect an important experiment. For the first time, a national league side was formed by a state federation. Virtually all 30 A-league teams who entered the league up to 1991 had previously existed – but as state league teams. This effectively meant that support from other local clubs wasn't necessarily forthcoming, given that previous rivalry had existed between these clubs at the state level. This was especially true considering the ethnic backing of a majority of Australia's biggest clubs. Other states with no A-league representation looked at the Brisbane United experiment with great interest.

Brisbane Strikers' A-league record

A-league season	Final ladder position	Average home crowd
1991-92	6th/14 teams	2300
1992-93	14th/14	2100
1993-94	8th/14	2500
1994-95	7th/13	2600
1995-96	4th/12	5100
1996-97	2nd*/14	5100

* grand final victory (champions)

After a relatively successful first season, United had a drab 1992-93. A revitalisation in 1993 led to a new team name – the Strikers – and a greater promotional push.

Perry Park had provided a homely and compact headquarters for their first four years. But to coincide with the revamped Ericsson Cup in 1995, the Strikers made the risky move to the much larger and more centrally located Suncorp Stadium (previously known as Lang Park).

And with the acquisition of former Italian first division player Frank Farina (originally a Queensland product), 1995-96 was a boom year for the Strikers – average crowds doubled, and the team finished only one win from top position.

The Strikers attained increased media profile especially through Farina, the first high-profile Australian to return from a long playing stint in Europe. Farina had played in Belgium, Italy and France in a distinguished European career spanning from 1989 to 1995. To add to Farina's experience and commitments, he was appointed player-coach of the Strikers in 1996.

But it was the following season – 1996-97 – that will go down as the year of the Strikers. The first national league grand final of any football code to be played in Brisbane was watched by a mammoth 40,446 people, who witnessed the Strikers' 2-0 victory over minor premiers Sydney United. This was the first time a team outside of Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide had won the A-league.

Coinciding with Glory's large home crowds, the shift of power in Australian soccer has started with the surge of the Strikers in 1996-97.

Previous A-league meetings

Round 9, 1996-97, Suncorp Stadium

Brisbane Strikers 1 (Battistin 87)	Perth Glory 5 (Wilkinson 14, Despotovski 51, 68, Kalogeracos 53, Strudwick 57)

Round 23, 1996-97, Perth Oval

Perth Glory 0	Brisbane Strikers 2 (T. Cranney 13, Wehrman 89)

RIGHT: Sean Cranney closely marks Bobby Despotovski.

LEFT: Scott Miller chases after Frank Farina.

BELOW: Chay Hews in control as Samson Siasia looks on.

Last time we met at home

Opponents: Brisbane Strikers
Dateline: Sunday March 30, 1997
Score: Perth Glory 0 - 2; Brisbane Strikers
Lge. Position: 6th
Attendance: 12,858
Referee: Wayne Dade
Team: R. Zabica (T. Maras 46), G. Wilkinson, V. Buljubasic, G. Naven, S. Miller, P. McVittie, S. Despotovski, V. Kalogeracos, D. Wingell (V. Beretovac 72), A.Carbone, P. Vukmirovic (A. MacKenzie 75).

Perth Glory managed to hang on to 6th place in the standings after this Round 23 fixture despite losing 2-0 to the eventual Ericsson Cup champions. It was a listless performance by the Perth side, coach Gary Marocchi even likened many of his forward players to statues when they were meant to provide the man on the ball with options. Brisbane placed the home side on the backfoot after 13 minutes when Troy Cranney returned a half-clearance low and hard from all of 25 metres past a startled Robert Zabica.

The former Socceroo keeper redeemed himself three minutes later with a brilliant save to a fierce strike from Frank Farina, but he was replaced by Tom Maras for the second half after failing to shake off a flu virus. Keen to revenge the 5-1 defeat in Round 9, the Strikers netted a second goal a minute from the end through substitute Kasey Wehrman who celebrated in his typical manner with an acrobatic somersault in front of the main stand.

The shock win at the Suncorp Stadium in December '96, was the Glory's fourth victory in their inaugural season, and one which elevated them to fourth on the ladder. Gavin Wilkinson gave the Glory a 1-0 lead at the break, before a double to Bobby Despotovski and singles to Vas Kalogeracos and Paul Strudwick eventually sank a Brisbane side who could only reply three minutes from the end with a solitary goal from Mark Battistin.

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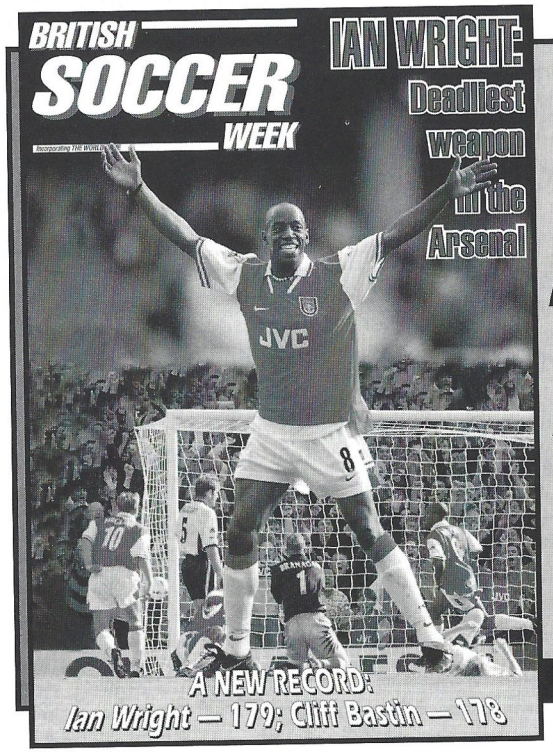

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Free Kicks

Types of Free Kicks

Free kicks are either direct or indirect.

For both direct and indirect free kicks, the ball must be stationary when the kick is taken and the kicker does not touch the ball a second time until it has touched another player.

The Direct Free Kick

- If a direct free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal is awarded.
- If a direct free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team.

The Indirect Free Kick

Signal

The referee indicates an indirect free kick by raising his arm above his head. He maintains his arm in that position until the kick has been taken and the ball has touched another player or goes out of play.

Ball Enters the Goal

A goal can be scored only if the ball subsequently touches another player before it enters the goal.

- If an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded.
- If an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team.

Position of Free Kick

Free Kick Inside the Penalty Area

Direct or indirect free kick to the defending team:

- All opponents are at least 9.15m (10 yards) from the ball.
- All opponents remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play.
- The ball is in play when it is kicked directly beyond the penalty area.
- A free kick awarded in the goal area is taken from any point inside that area.

Indirect free kick to the attacking team:

- All opponents are at least 9.15m (10 yards) from the ball until it is in play, unless they are on their own goal line between the goalposts the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.
- An indirect free kick awarded inside the goal area is taken from that part of the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal line, at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred.

Free Kick Outside the Penalty Area

- All opponents are at least 9.15m (10 yards) from the ball until it is in play.
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.
- The free kick is taken from the place where the infringement occurred.

Infringements/Sanctions

If, when a free kick is taken, an opponent is closer to the ball than the required distance:

- The kick is retaken.

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team from inside its own penalty area, the ball is not kicked directly into play;

- The kick is retaken.

Free kick taken by a player other than the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball a second time (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 8 – Special Circumstances).

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player;

- A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred * (see Law 8 – Special Circumstances).
- A penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area.

Free kick taken by the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper touches the ball a second time (except with his hands), before it has touched another player:

- An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred * (see Law 8 – Special Circumstances).

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred outside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred * (see Law 8 – Special Circumstances).
- An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred * (see Law 8 – Special Circumstances).

Gary Brown-Neaves on winning

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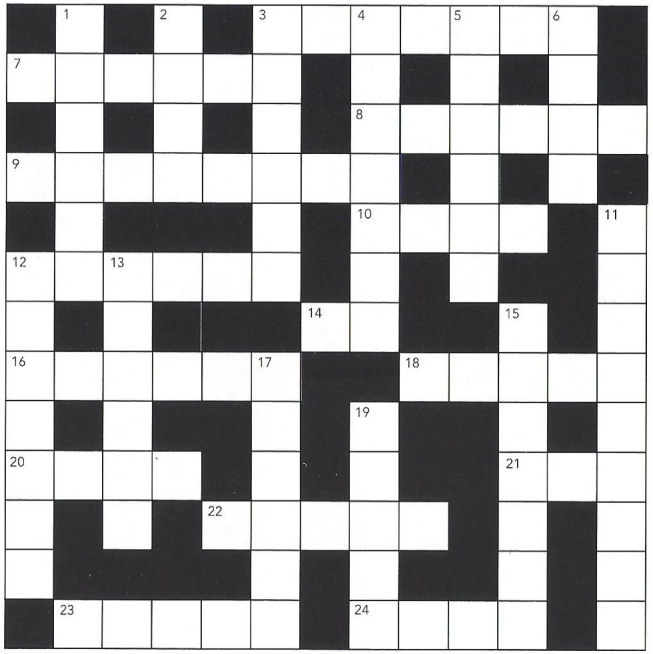

ACROSS:

3 Ericsson Cup newcomers
7 Brisbane's player-coach
8 & 17 down Manager of Arsenal
9 Tartan Army support this country
10 Last country to qualify for 1998 World Cup
12 Central American soccer nation
14 Own goal (abbrev)
16 Road where Norwich play
18 See 23 across
20 A temporary transfer
21 A welcome drink on a cold day
22 A representative of a player
23 & 18 across Top club from Argentina
24 A much improved Polish club

DOWN

1 Made Glory debut three weeks ago
2 Used by goalkeepers, legitimately
3 Nation Socceroos defeated in penultimate game in 1994 World Cup qualifiers
4 Struggling English 1st division side
5 Top Brazilian known as the White Pele
6 Number worn by Paul Strudwick
11 Top man at FIFA
12 This dog found the World Cup in 1966
13 Given name of UTS Olympic striker Tome
15 French star once at Old Trafford
17 See 8 across
19 Real Madrid winger of the 1950s

SOLUTION TO SOCCERWORDS No. 9

ACROSS: 3 Fanzine, 7 Colo, 9 Reilly, 10 Holland, 12 Eton, 13 Beretovac, 16 Captain, 18 Oion, 19 Lenin, 20 Utd, 21 Nike, 22 Yashin, 23 Scar.

DOWN: 1 Colo, 2 Goalkeeper, 4 Ayr, 5 Zaire, 6 Nelson, 8 Longo, 10 Hibs, 11 Barnsley, 14 Souness, 15 PNE, 16 Celtic, 17 Aloisi

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THE MUNICH AIR DISASTER

Standing (L-R): John Berry, Dennis Viollet, Ray Wood, Roger Byrne (Captain), Bill Foulkes, Duncan Edwards.
Front: Dave Pegg, Bill Whelan, Tommy Taylor, Danny Blanchflower, Eddie Colman.

IT'S good to see youngsters and those not so young, at Perth Oval, decked out in the colours of their favourite football team.

Besides barracking for Perth Glory, it is obvious the people of Perth support from afar the likes of AC Milan, Ajax, Juventus, Barcelona, and just about every English team ranging from bottom rung stragglers Doncaster Rovers ... to table-toppers mighty Manchester United.

Not only are Man United clear leaders in the Premier Division (although hopefully Blackburn Rovers can give them a run for their money), judging by the abundance of United jerseys and caps on display at Perth Oval ... it's not hard to see which is the most popular club, perhaps worldwide. The Red Devils would win hands down.

At each Glory home game in the stands, well in the Press Box actually ... in attendance is former Manchester United player and Scottish international Francis Burns.

'Franny' as he is affectionately known is a commentator for local radio station 6NR - 927, and he gives an honest rundown as to how Glory perform on the park.

He made the big-time after playing as a youngster in his home town of Glenborg in Scotland, when, after a posse of scouts had him under their watchful eye he attracted the attention of revered manager Matt Busby.

At Old Trafford, Francis was brought up through the junior ranks at first carrying out menial tasks like cleaning boots and such like, before going on to further hone his skills playing alongside the likes of Bobby Charlton, Denis Law, Nobby Stiles, Georgie Best, and Brian Kidd to name but a few.

Almost 10 years before Francis made his first team debut for United at Upton Park against West Ham, a great tragedy befell the dazzling young Manchester United side that had been dubbed the Busby Babes.

Matt Busby had successfully snared reputedly the best schoolboys in the UK and groomed them into a team that boasted stunning skills. They became the cream of a generation, a very young side already more than capable of mixing it with the best in the world. Having defeated Red Star Belgrade 2-1 at home in the first-leg of the European Cup quarter-final, a 3-3 draw in Belgrade was enough to earn a semi-final spot against AC Milan. With its passengers still in high spirits after that vital draw the previous day, the plane carrying a triumphant team back home to Ringway Airport in Manchester made a scheduled stopover at Muncih to refuel.

At 15:03 hrs on Friday, February 6th in 1958, the 47 seater twin-engined BEA Elizabethan aircraft call-signed 609 Zulu Uniform attempted to take-off from a slush-covered runway with co-pilot Captain Ken Rayement at the helm.

One minute later, as Flight Commander Captain James Thain seated besides Captain Rayement frantically attempted to boost much needed power, the stricken plane overshot the runway, tore through a boundary fence, skidded and slewed across a snow-covered field to slam into a house on the outskirts of the small village of Kirchtrudering.

The sickening impact was such that the left wing and complete tail section of the aircraft was torn off, and passengers were hurled sprawling into the snow.

In just 54 seconds, Matt Busby's all-conquering heroes who had the football world at their feet lay decimated – they left their dreams ... and some their lives amid the bloodstained snow-covered German countryside.

Three miles away the Rechts der Isar Hospital in Munich received a call from the airport and immediately went into disaster mode. A fleet of ambulances were despatched quickly to the crash-site to ferry the injured.

Ten United players were amongst those that survived the crash, namely Ray Wood, John Berry, Harry Gregg, Bobby Charlton, Jackie Blanchflower, Bill Foulkes, Duncan Edwards, Albert Scanlon, Ken Morgans, and Dennis Violet. (Although Duncan Edwards was sadly to die two weeks later from irreparable kidney damage.)

Manager Matt Busby lay near death in an oxygen tent with massive chest injuries and a punctured lung, incredibly, against all odds as the Last Rites had been given to him ... he pulled through to overcome the injuries sustained in that horrific plane crash that wiped out the bulk of his beloved Busby Babes.

Devastated by the loss of his side, the Scottish miner's son from Orbiston in Lanarkshire baffled all and sundry by regaining his health – then set about picking up the pieces and rebuilding his team to take them on to further glory. In 1965 and 1967 United were League Champions, and in 1968 they became the first English team to win the European Cup when they defeated Benfica 4-1 at Wembley.

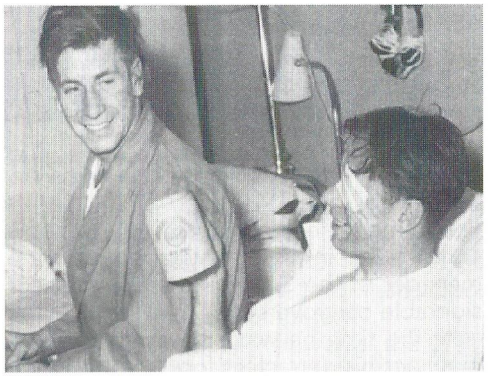
Forty-four people were on board BEA Flight 609 scheduled to fly from Munich to Manchester on that fateful Friday, February 6th 40 years ago in 1958. Twenty three were to die. Manchester United players killed were:

Duncan Edwards, (23) attacking wing half from Dudley in the West Midlands, hailed as one of the greatest players in the world.

Tommy Taylor, (25) centre forward who at a cost of £29,999 had become United's most expensive player when bought from Barnsley.

David Pegg, (22) a left winger from Doncaster who boasted a lightning turn of speed coupled with a searing shot.

Roger Byrne, (28) local born skipper who played at left back and commanded a regular place in the England team line-up.



A youthful Bobby Charlton (left) and the Manchester United reserve goalkeeper Ray Wood recovering in the Rechts der Isar Hospital after the Munch disaster in February 1958.

Billy Whelan, (22) an Eire international who played at inside right. Had hit the net 50 times for United in almost 100 appearances.

Eddie Colman, (21) a stylish wing half and general of United's midfield. Known for his deceptive body swerve that tied opponents in knots.

Mark Jones, (24) a Barnsley born robust centre-half who had come through the junior ranks at Old Trafford.

Geoff Bent, (25) a reserve left-back making a name for himself as a tough defender, already renowned for his ability to remain cool whilst under pressure.

Others to die on that fateful day were: Manchester United officials **Walter Crickmer,** Club Secretary; **Willie Satinoff,** Director; **Bert Whalley,** Coach; and **Tommy Curry,** Trainer.

Also tragically lost were sports writers **Eric Thompson,** Daily Mail; **Tom Jackson,** Manchester Evening News; **George Fellows,** Daily Herald; **Archie Ledbrooke,** Daily Mirror; **Henry Rose,** Daily Express; **Don Davies,** Manchester Guardian; **Alf Clarke,** Manchester Evening Chronicle; and former England and Manchester City goalkeeper **Frank Swift** from the News of the World.

Other victims included co-pilot **Ken Rayement**, travel agent **Bela Miklos** and BEA steward **William Cable.**

GREATER UNION

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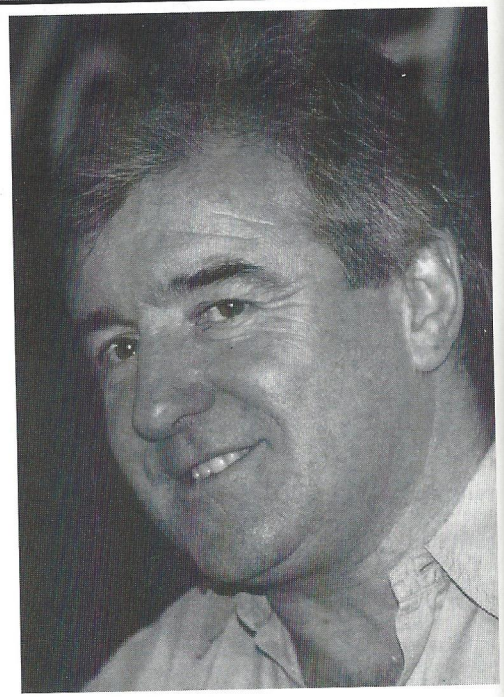
TERRY VENABLES

GLORY

Socceroos' guiding light



LIKE most decisions that Terry Venables has made in his life, his appointment as manager of the Socceroos came with considerable controversy.

At the time he was appointed England's manager his detractors focussed on his ongoing legal difficulties, but the FA decided to overlook the potentially embarrassing courtroom scenarios when weighed against the 1994 World Cup qualifying fiasco.

Two years on and Venables was lauded for guiding England to the semi-finals of the European Nations Championship, but the nerves of the FA failed them and they refused to renew his contract.

Despite his successful managerial style, his appointment as Australian coach was not met with universal approval and it could not have escaped his attention that both Australia and England are at the same juncture in their footballing evolution – both nations under-fulfilling the expectations of their supporters.

Therefore Venables' first task was relatively simple: redress the damage performed by his predecessor.

Both Graham Taylor and Eddie Thomson may have had their supporters, however they preached a stultifying form of football with the accent on avoiding defeat and blunting the finer aspects of the game.

Under Thomson, Australia were drab to the point where watching the paint dry on the Sydney Harbour Bridge would be preferable – likewise England.

This is not revisionism to portray the Venables appointment and subsequent footballing style in a brighter light, merely that Taylor and Thomson refused to believe in football's possibilities and accordingly their teams were weighed down with negativity and lacking originality.

Venables came in for a great deal of criticism from Australian football commentators (principally those who had the most to lose from the game's increasing popularity and inevitable commercial attractiveness), but a result of one defeat in 16 starts cannot be disputed.

Nor have they been agonisingly drawn out encounters as Venables has modernised the tactics (loosely a 3-5-2 formation) and encouraged wing-back players like Matt Bingley to contribute more positively to the attack.

What has impressed is that Venables has got the players to perform within a pattern and therefore made it easier to accommodate tactical alterations.

Ex-Socceroo Paul Wade, 84 caps for Australia, numbered among those who passionately argued that an Australian-based coach should have been appointed.

Fortunately chairman David Hill took the approach that you should aim for the best possible candidate available and that was Venables.

"We all agree that the team is more positive; we got a bit boged down under Eddie Thomson," said Wade. "I think he's won over 95 per cent of people in Australia.

There will always be five per cent who are never happy.

"But the rest would say Terry Venables is the best thing to happen to Australian soccer in a long time."

Both Wade and current Socceroo captain Alex Tobin have concurred that Venables' best attribute as a coach, is his man management skills:

"He's got the respect of the players," said Wade.

Tobin added: "He tried from the beginning to be very approachable. It became evident that, even though he'd coached England and Barcelona, he wasn't going to talk down to us. He enjoyed getting the best out of the players. He's down on the pitch, not in the ivory tower."

But what sort of player does Venables admire?

Four players he thought worthy of handing out debut England caps were Sol Campbell (Tottenham), Nick Barmby (Everton), Jamie Redknapp (Liverpool) and Phil Neville (Manchester United).

The reason? Their versatility, confidence and willingness to assume responsibility.

Venables' playing philosophy can be summed up thus: "It's all about change of pace, about getting a rhythm whereby you can circulate the ball and make sure it moves quickly so you can keep shifting the opposition defence about," Venables said.

"Ajax are a good example of a team that knows when to have a rest if they've got the ball, of finding their starting positions when they're in possession, so that when they're ready to attack in the last third their opponents find it hard to compete."

Venables is a close follower of the great Dutch club as he elaborated further: "Ajax getting to the European Cup final two years on the trot and winning it once, have proved that even a club in one of the world's smaller countries can be successful (a statement which also neatly encapsulates Australia's position in the world game)."

What nobody can thus far deny is that the Socceroos are now playing their best football for some time.

The next 12 months promises to be anything but mundane for Australian football.

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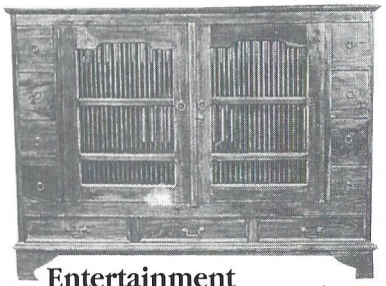

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GLORY'S VETERAN

WHEN Anthony Franken was told he was the oldest player to make a debut for Perth Glory, his reaction was quicker than making a penalty save.

"My wife will get a laugh out of that," he said jokingly.

Yes, it's true, Franken was 32 years and 302 days old when he replaced an injured Tom Maras for the clash with UTS Olympic in early November last year, in which Glory won 1-0.

It ended a frustrating time for the experienced Franken, who had over a dozen national league seasons behind him. But it was another five weeks before his second appearance (again Maras was injured), and has not looked back since.

Coach Gary Marocchi probably had a fair idea of the starting line-up for the new season before Franken joined Glory well into the pre-season training.

"I just had to bide my time and put in the hard work at training and wait for my opportunity," Franken said.

The Fremantle-born Franken, nicknamed 'Nige' by veteran Socceroo livewire Graham Arnold, won honours with the NSW and Australian schoolboys before progressing to youth, under-23 and international level.

Franken made about 25 appearances for his country which included two full internationals – against Indonesia and Solomon Islands – and probably had his best game in the 1984 Merlion Cup in Singapore.

Australia virtually took an under-23 side to the tournament, where Franken (only 19 at the time) and Frank Farina were outstanding, and reached the semi-final before losing to Iraq in an epic struggle.

The brave young Aussies took the game to extra time only to finish at 1-1, but lost in an incredible 9-8 penalty shoot-out.

Franken's display was nothing short of miraculous and one Iraqi journalist was quoted after the big game, saying, "If we had Franken in goal, we would take on the World Champions." High praise, indeed.

At national league level, Franken had

spells at Canberra City, Sydney Croatia, Parramatta Eagles, Leichhardt Apia, UTS Olympic before joining Glory.

In 1984, Franken was named the under-21 player of the year, an award that he cherishes to this day.

"I was at Canberra at the time and it was not considered a fashionable team, so the award was all the more special," he said.

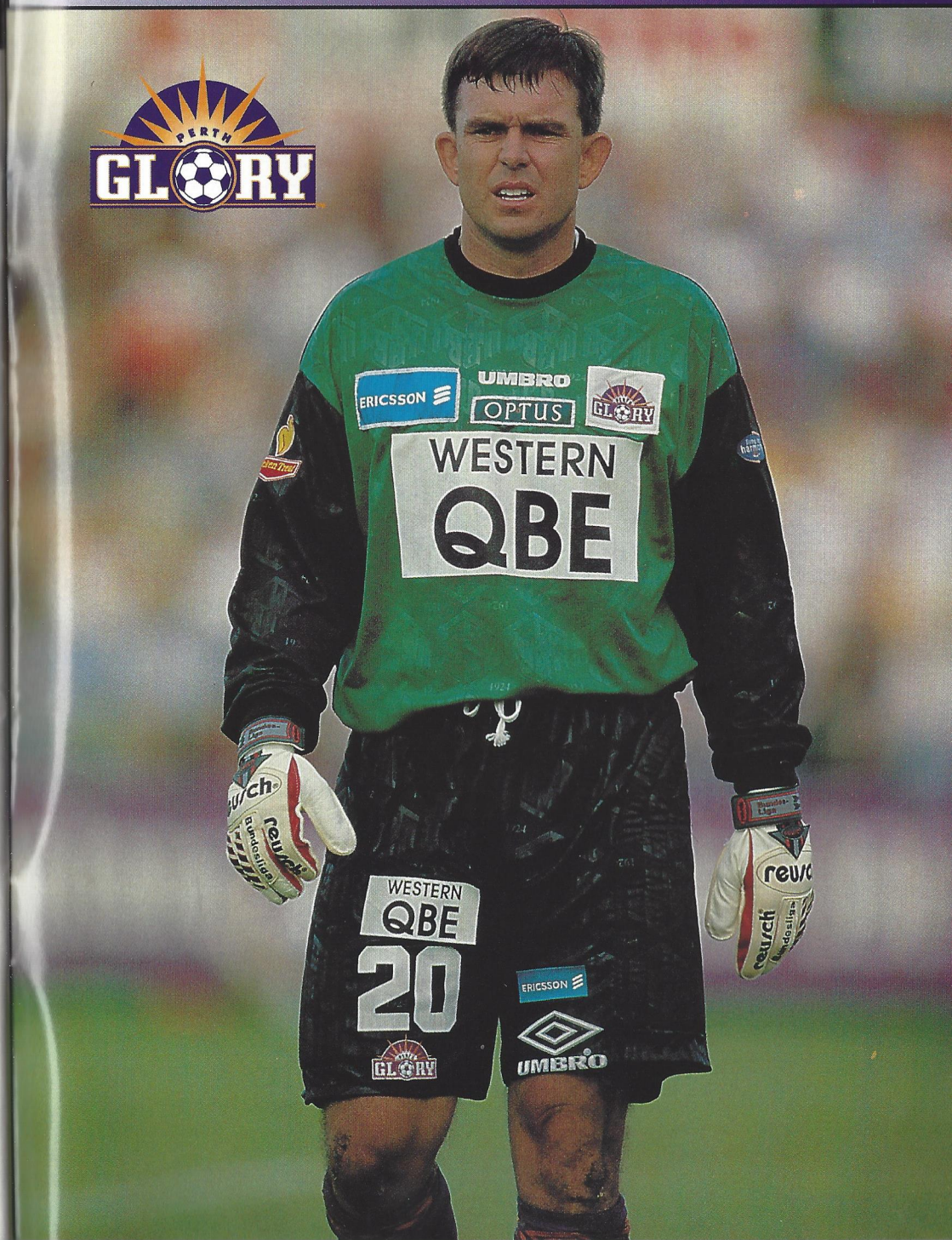
Indeed, Franken's name is etched into national league history along with other great recipients of the award, namely Eddie Krncevic, John Kosmina, Ernie Tapai and Farina.

Being at Glory has certainly revived Franken's career and he does not regret the move. "Glory are a well-run club – very professional – and the guys are all great," he said. "I'm really enjoying myself."

A fortnight ago Franken celebrated his 33rd birthday and feels that he can stretch out another few years before concentrating more on his hobbies of fishing and golf.

Franken has had a good career, let's all hope he can finish it off with a league title with Glory!

ANTHONY FRANKEN



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